

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Buel C. Young

MVA Media Relations  
(410) 762-5188

### SECOND OLDER DRIVER SAFETY SYMPOSIUM HOSTED BY MARYLAND MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION *Working Toward Safe Mobility for Life*

**LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MD (April 24 , 2013)** – Today, highway safety experts in the fields of health, community service, and law enforcement gathered to participate in the [2013 Maryland Older Driver Safety Symposium](#). Hosted by the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA), the symposium provided an opportunity to share the most recent information, research and best practices on older drivers. The symposium's goal is to promote a culture of *Safe Mobility for Life* and to build on the information presented at the 2012 symposium.

"This symposium is crucial. We must handle the extraordinary growth of older drivers in Maryland and serve them well," said MVA Administrator and Maryland's Highway Safety Representative John. T. Kuo. "It is a challenge to handle the condition, not the age of our drivers, so that we all remain safely on our roads."

The symposium's keynote speaker, Dr. Jamie Dow, is the medical advisor on road safety at the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec. Dr. Dow's address, on the *Effects of the Severity of Medical Conditions Upon Crash Risk* was followed by discussions on: *Crashes, Crash Dynamic, and Consequences: Behind the Scenes of Maryland Older Driver Crashes*; *Identifying Those at Risk*; and *Intervention & Prevention: Promoting Driving Longevity*. The plenary sessions on crashes and driving longevity were featured with speakers who are recognized leaders in the field of older driver safety.

This year, a second day has been added to the symposium in response to the feedback from last year, in order to provide professional development workshops for law enforcement, medical professionals and community service providers with specific hands-on training of how to address issues related to aging and driving. Close to 200 professionals from throughout the state will be participating in this training.

As part of the symposium, the MVA announced that in partnership with the Maryland State Police they would be developing an online application to allow law enforcement to electronically submit referrals to the MVA. Currently law enforcement officials submit referrals of drivers who may need review by the MVA in a paper format. Under this new initiative, all police agencies connected with the MSP through the electronic ticketing platform will be able to submit electronic referrals to the MVA, increasing the ease and timeliness of the referral process.

The symposium was organized by the MVA and the Maryland Older Driver Safety Symposium Steering Committee. It is intended to bring Maryland leaders, who focus on policies and programs for older driver safety, together to share knowledge and awareness of the latest in older driver research and best practices. The symposium is also a forum for the practical application in Maryland of older driver safety, and builds on the progress already made in the field.